(b) and (c) Preliminary building drawings have been approved and estimates are under preparation.

(d) The constrution of building is likely to commence in about a year's time and the exchange is expected to be commissioned towards the end of 7th Five year Plan subject to availability of resources.

Chandigarh Telephone Exchange

98. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the existing Chandigarh Telephone Exchange has reached the saturation point and no new connection can henceforth be provided;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that the fresh applications for OYT connections are still being entertained without informing the applicant about the near futility of his effort only to show greater revenue earnings; and

(c) what is the date of the OYT applications pending at Chandigarh for the longest time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Registeration of fresh applications is done to put the applicants on the waiting list so that as and when capacity becomes available the connections can be given.

(c) The earliest O.Y.T. Application is pending since 28.9.1983.

New drug policy

99. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2131 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 17th March, 1986 and state:

(a) whether the New Drug Policy which was expected to be formulated in March this year has since been framed;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) if the answer to the part (a) above be in the negative what are the reasons therefor;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the prices of all multivitamins have been increased recently; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) to (c) The policy has not been finalised.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. On reviewing the representations, the prices of 52 packs of multivitamin formulations produced by M|s. Pfizer Ltd., Sandoz (I) Ltd. and Abbott Labs. have recently been revised under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1979. As a result of this revision the prices of 7 packs have gone up marginally, there is no change in the case of one pack and prices of remaining 44 packs have been reduced over the prices which the three manufacturers were enjoying earlier.

Working of Calcutta Telephone

100. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 289 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 9th December, 1985 and state:

(a) whether all the temporary telephone connections within the area of the Area Manager (South) Calcutta Telephones as referred to in the reply have been duly installed at the subscribers premises by now;

(b) if so, the date of installation of each such telephone;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a good number of those telephones after installation did not function and|or remained dead for a considerable period of time and as a result of which many of the subscribers represented to Calcutta Telephones for extension of period beyond six months and|or for refund of rent for the period

their telephones remained dead or inoperative; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof and what action is being taken to help the subscribers in order to improve the working of telephones?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The required information is given below:

Sl. No.	Telephone No.	Date of Installation
1	453086	December 1985
2	455061	December 1985
3	454026	Do.
4	451581	Do.
5	457786	February 1986
6	455598	December 1980
7	427747	Do.
8	487628	Do.
9	487718	Do.
10	427569	Do.
11	427792	Do.
12	427534	Do.
13	427761	Do.
14	427805	January 1986

(c) and (d). Faults of different types occurred on the above mentioned telephones which were rectified. The following steps are being taken to improve the working of telephones in Calcutta.

(i) Replacement of life-expired and worn out telephone exchanges and provision of adequate spares for maintenance of serviceable equipment.

(ii) Improvement and expansion of inter-exchange junction network with provision of cable PCM and microwave systems.

(iii) Rehabilitation of the external plant which is the weakest link of the system.

(iv) Increasing the capacities of electronic trunk automatic exchanges and phasing out the Pentaconta crossbar trunk automatic exchange equipment which is responsible for large scale failure of STD calls.

(v) Increasing the capacities of inter-metro transmission media and provision of adequate channelling equipment.

(vi) Computerisation of some of the important auto-manual services like directory enquiry and trunk booking enquiry.

Telephones in rural Areas

101. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV:
SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of telephone connections given in urban areas